

# The Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1913.

## OPEN HEARTS AND PURSES.

"How much can you give to the Flood Relief Fund?" That is a question for Richmonders to answer right now. We have been slow in responding to the call for help. It is time we got busy and sent enough money to the poor and suffering of the Middle West to let them know that Richmond is part of this nation, and that our people are generous and sympathetic. Exclamations of horror and prayers of thanksgiving for our own safety help no destitute family to buy meal and meat and the cooking utensils, and bedding with which to start over again. It is by cents and a dollar and five and one hundred in the hands of the distributing committees that prove us more than verbose sentimentalists.

The Times-Dispatch has rehearsed all the arguments for generosity. We are prosperous. This community is growing rich. It has new duties. Once when the South was barely able to help herself after a devastation worse than any flood, it was well enough to plead poverty, the charity that begins at home, and the duty of rebuilding our own homes and factories. Now, we are just as able to give to others as any State in the Union. If we do not it will not be because of poverty, but because of stinginess. Is the South to win a new name for close-lippedness?

We are blessed by kindly Heaven with a protecting wall of mountains, with a temperate and healthful climate, with everything that conduces to safety and progress. Gratitude should make us quick to help those less fortunate. If our own well-being and safety is going to breed indifference and self-complacency, then we will suffer a spiritual submergence that will be more awful than any rush of waters.

New York raised \$500,000 in a few days. One man in St. Louis gave \$25,000. We cannot do this kind of giving. But we can set our hearts on thousands instead of paltry hundreds. If we do not, what kind of a city is this we are so proud of?

The greatest need is just come. The spectacular side of the flood is being replaced by sudden destitution, ruined homes, spreading disease, the horror of reconstruction. Unless prevention is offered, contagion will harvest more lives than the waters. The prolonged and monotonous suffering of children and women will be worse than death itself. Has Richmond enough imagination to realize the duty of service?

## A COMMON ENDEAVOR AND A COMMON ACHIEVEMENT.

Through a typographical error, an editorial on "Expansion" in last Sunday's issue of the newspaper was made to say: "In these efforts, the Times and the Times-Dispatch had stood alone." Such efforts being those to secure "efficiency of administration, liberal expenditure for education and development of Virginia's material resources, the improvement of public schools and colleges, the betterment of the conditions in jails and the penitentiary, the eradication of the conditions that create crime rather than the punishment of the criminals, the maintenance of a high and patriotic standard for all—public servants or private citizens—the widest possible extension of the principles of pure Democracy and an earnest and unyielding opposition to all special favors or privileges for any class or individual."

The sentence should have read: "In these efforts the Times and the Times-Dispatch have not stood alone." This is clearly seen from the context, for the very next sentence is: "A wider and truer conception of the duty of the press to lead and not to follow, has been manifested to an increased degree by the papers of the State."

This explanation is made because the Times-Dispatch would not have it thought for a moment that this newspaper and the Times seek to arrogate to themselves the credit for the social, material, intellectual, political and moral progress achieved in Virginia in the last quarter of a century. They claim only their due share of recognition for the part they have played in a splendid work that many have long and patiently carried on. The task of solving the vast problems of this Commonwealth has called, and still calls, for common purpose, common strength and common striving. The Times-Dispatch realizes profoundly the power of its contemporaries, large and small, old and new, struggling and successful. It ascribes to them the fullest measure of praise for the fine things they have achieved and are achieving. Each in its own particular star wields a mighty power that none other possesses; their opportunity for constructive leadership may seem narrow to them because their individual field is small, but when they consider themselves as parts of a great whole, their real power stands revealed.

The newspapers of Virginia—with but few exceptions and few real differences—are working together for

progress and the public weal. A common striving for a common goal is slowly yet surely welding them together into a more perfect union for the greater glory of the Commonwealth.

## THE JUVENILE COURTS FIRST YEAR.

The Juvenile Court of Richmond closed its first year yesterday with a splendid record of reclamation of youth from evil. The remarkable achievements of this institution justify its establishment and prove its efficiency as a fine force for social betterment. It has saved the juvenile delinquent who might soon have become an adult criminal; it has wrought wonderfully for better boyhood and better girlhood, and, therefore, for better manhood and better womanhood, in Richmond. It deserves the highest commendation of the community.

By authority of an act of the General Assembly, passed in 1910, the City Council, on December 22, 1911, provided for the creation of the Juvenile Court and directed the Police Justice of the city to hold a daily session when necessary to hear cases of youthful delinquency. A separate room was set apart for such hearings, so that the young offenders are not tried like ordinary criminals, and a probation officer in charge of juveniles was appointed. Since its organization a year ago the court has tried hundreds of cases, involving hundreds of children. The system has worked so successfully that only a small per cent of first offenders have ever been brought back, charged with further delinquency. Cases are thoroughly investigated, the home visited, and all possible information concerning the child is collected, so that, if possible, the cause of error may be detected and corrected. When a child is released on probation, he or she is required to keep out of bad company, to go to school regularly, or, if working, to keep steadily employed, to report weekly to the probation officer and to keep in mind that the court is still guardian. The girls on probation are watched over by sympathetic women who have volunteered for this work.

Hundreds of boys and girls, white and black, some of them charged with forgery, grand larceny, burglary, and even murder, have been brought into court, and yet it has been found necessary to commit only a small percentage of them to institutions of detention. Many cases have been handled unofficially in which it has not been necessary to bring children before the court. This class is composed of those who have committed minor offenses or given trouble at home.

In some cases where it has not been deemed wise to release offenders on probation, they have been put in the custody of responsible people, under whose supervision they have been put to work. Twenty-three negro boys, for example, have been sent to farms, where they are living and working in moral and healthful conditions.

Under the Juvenile Court system, youthful violators of the law are given a chance to reform, instead of being sent to associate in jails with old and hardened criminals, under whose influence the impressionable youth would easily be persuaded to enter upon a career of crime. Potential criminals are converted into good citizens. To the child the court says: "Go and sin no more."

## THE TAILORED WOMAN.

Strangely enough, this is an editorial on women's clothes that does not attempt to be funny. Not that it is wrong, or even difficult, to be funny about the absurdities of fashion and some of its simple-minded devotees, but clothes are important enough occasionally to receive the full splendor of serious masculine consideration, without being used as texts for sarcasm, or bits of suggestive writing veiled as moral reform. Moreover, real sartorial humor is best developed by some of the fool things men wear.

Therefore, he it averred that women are dressing more sensibly every year, and that the chief danger is that too soon will they reach the dinky dulness of masculine garb. Take the dress of the average American woman on the street. She wears what is called a "tailored" hat. It is usually of plain straw or felt, with a trifle of trimming. It supports fewer furbelows and needs fewer hatpins than of yore. It may be a little less substantial, rain-proof and serviceable than men's headgear, but it is infinitely more graceful and attractive. If men had an acre of hair to keep out of their eyes instead of bald spots to conceal, they might wear much the same covering.

The modern woman wears a shirtwaist with reasonable sleeves and an occasional pocket. Almost anything she does or does not wear about her neck is better than the stiff lacy bands of starched linen that seem essential for manly dignity. For some hold mad temptations, but they at least make the wearer immune to colds and sore throats. The term "coat suit" indicates what is wanted by most women. Their jackets are about as comfortable and serviceable as men's coats. Moreover, women have the common-sense idea of putting on a coat when they feel cold, and taking it off when they get hot. Men has not subdued his garments thus.

The hobble-skirt is a silly thing. Yet it is not half so silly as crinolines, a germ-collecting train, or countless petticoats. The present style in skirts

has the advantage of being short, and save for tightness, they are efficient. It is only a matter of time until women rebel and wear skirts that are roomy enough to permit of free and graceful movement. Thin silk stockings are futile because they wear out. They do not seem particularly healthful. They could be improved. The broad, low, generally rubber-heeled or soled shoe could scarcely be improved upon. French heels, pointed toes and thin soles are not good form for street. Ten years ago they were. That shows how we are improving.

In all, the tailored woman is dressed for comfort, beauty and physical efficiency. Can men say the same?

## MAKING THE RICH POORER BY TAXES.

Before the affrighted vision of old landed families and new millionaires of trade the taxgatherer in England stands like a fearful specter. Not content with taking taxes of 5 per cent from all whose total income is under \$25,000, and 8 per cent from all whose total income is above \$25,000, the British government is now taxing estates with death duties that run as high in some cases as 25 per cent.

The total amount collected by the British government in 1911 and 1912 from death duties was \$125,000,000, and in spite of the bitter complaint that this form of taxation is really destroying the capital of the country, there is no apparent let-up in sight.

These are some of the sufferings of the rich. What are the sufferings of the poor? To-day the national income for Great Britain is \$9,000,000,000, and the national accumulated wealth is \$65,000,000,000. Surely this should be enough to settle on a living wage for England's citizens. And yet there are thousands of families that cannot secure \$5 a week for their maintenance. Thirty per cent of the town population in England have an income of less than \$5 a week. The agricultural laborers average under \$4.50 a week in England, and in Ireland about \$2.50 a week. And yet, the money is there. Out of a total population of 45,000,000, 35,000,000 are dependent on incomes of less than \$12 a week. These absorb about \$4,600,000,000 of the national income; 4,100,000 people depend on incomes of between \$800 to \$1,000 a year, and absorb \$1,300,000,000 of the national income. But the comparatively small number of 1,400,000 citizens depend on incomes of over \$3,000 a year, and absorb the mighty sum of \$3,120,000,000. In other words, more than one-third of the entire income of the United Kingdom is enjoyed by less than one-thirtieth of its people.

These are the facts that Canon Barnett discussed in a powerful paper, and he reached the conclusion that, painful as it may be, in order to save Great Britain the poor must become richer, and the rich must become poorer. "The tax collector who interferes with the use of accumulated wealth now controlled by the comparatively small number of the people is much less dangerous to the national prosperity than the discontent which arises from poverty."

Since 1905 the Liberal party has been in control. During that seven years Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, have used every means in their power to redistribute wealth and stamp out poverty. These efforts have been met with the most bitter denunciation and the most lamentable forecasts, but the Liberal vote has not fallen off, and the Liberal policy has not abated. Whether the rich men of England like it or not, they have been compelled to consider seriously the fact that in place of the old text, "God loveth a cheerful giver," they must substitute, "God loveth a cheerful taxpayer."

## EDUCATE YOUNG MEN TO VOTE.

The aim of the Young Men's Registration Committee is to get young men to qualify as voters and then to vote. We have said that this is a fine ambition, and the plan a hopeful sign in our political life. We now ask how the committee intends to achieve its ends, and whether it will not be inevitably forced to adopt a broader theory of action than that of merely persuading young men to comply with technical preliminaries to voting? The young men must be educated first to recognize the duty of voting, and then in a knowledge of public questions that will enable them to vote right. If the committee has no platform or propaganda, how does it expect to accomplish any permanent good?

Outside of an educational campaign leading to a reasoned conviction of duty to the community, the committee must rely on personal appeal and individual work. This may result in getting a thousand men to qualify for one election. But if they are not aroused to a real, enduring interest in civic affairs, the same campaign must be made over and over again. The votes that are cast by men who are persuaded and led to register, but who do not feel the urgent duty of registering, will not be as helpful as the committee hopes.

The theory that once get young men to vote and they will instinctively vote right, is pleasant, but not always true. If they are persuaded to vote by personal influence, why will they not vote according to personal prejudice, friendship, selfish interest, and the other motives that hamper democratic government, especially in the South? Instinct is a poor guide to decision on the economic questions with which most of our political life is now concerned. Instinct leads to short-sighted selfishness. What we want is the enlightened selfishness that perceives how the individual's wealth and welfare depend on the wealth and welfare of the whole people. Enlightened selfishness comes only from education, and not from personal influence.

The committee has begun a good work, but it has only begun. Young men need to be interested and informed. Clubs, debates, lectures, instruction in



economics and civics, the example of leadership, and a hundred devices should be enlisted to create a genuine feeling of devotion to high social ideals. Once these are inspired in the new generation, they will register and vote without persuasion.

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

**The Scientists.**  
The scientists inform us that there's danger lurking in the kiss. They've figured up a kissing gauge that's to be worn by every man. The gauge will keep the microbes from the spreading of a grim disease. For kissing microbes, so they say, will sting a fellow just like bees. Though I have lived a lot, I've yet to see the fellow, old or young, who wouldn't just as soon be stung. Then old professors don't seem able to give other folks a rest; they're always thinking up some scheme to know Dan Cupid galley west. Why don't they tend to their own business, dopin' grammar out, and laws. Instead of spoilin' all our fun by boostin' their new kissing gauge? If my friend, the village queen, does mix up microbes with romance, they won't sell me no kissing screen. A good sport always takes a chance.

**According to Uncle Abner.**  
Rev. Hanks says it doesn't matter whether the whale swallowed Jonah or Jonah swallowed the whale, just as long as the public swallowed the story. There ain't no town too small to have picture postcards that don't look like it. Laff Purdy struck it right when he married a telephone girl. All that he can think of to say to him is "Hello."

**From the Hickeyville Clarion.**  
The gentleman who stole the clapper off'n the firebell on our village engine house is requested to return same to avoid trouble, as he is known. Constable Ezra Hand has been at work on the case for some time and he traced the stolen article to the kitchen of the Hickeyville, where it is being used as a potato masher.

A fellow came along to Hod Peters's place the other day wantin' to buy a horse. He said to Hod: "Do you know where a fellow kin buy a horse?" and Hod said: "Yes, a kin tell you where a fellow kin buy a horse. Hank Tumma, a half-mile down the road, has got a horse to sell." The fellow then asked: "How do you know he has got a horse to sell?" and Hod said: "I know he has got a horse to sell because I sold it to him day before yesterday."

Ren Rinks, our station agent down to the railroad depot, who resigned his job seven years ago, is still waiting for somebody to buy a ticket to take his place. He doesn't go away and leave the place for fear some-body might want to buy a ticket to go somewhere or that a telegram might come for somebody and that would be taking a mean advantage of the railroad company. Ren has forgot what he got mad at the company for, but he remembers that he was purty good dinged mad and he ain't got over it yet.



## More Praise for Governor Mann

End of the Allen Case.

The execution of Floyd and Claude Allen at Richmond yesterday was the closing act of the Hillsville tragedy. The crime was unique in American history; it struck more directly at the foundations of civilized society than any outrage in the memory of this generation. There had been a determined and partially successful effort to save the murderers from adequate punishment, an effort backed by a force of Virginia public sentiment which is inexplicable in view of the blow which has been dealt the honor and prestige of the Commonwealth by the condemned criminals.

The two men who were put to death yesterday were no more guilty than their associates who escaped with lighter sentences. Claude and Floyd Allen were victims of a system which takes no account of the personal equation in justice. The sentimental campaign which was waged for months to save Floyd and Claude Allen from the electric chair is a manifestation of the same spirit which swayed jurists to mercy in the other Allen cases. Virginia could not forget that the men were unknown and stalwart mountaineers, that they were not criminals in their own sight, that they had acted in accordance with their ancient code.

The difficulty is that their code is medieval and violently at odds with modern civilization. Civilization must protect itself against just such recurrences of medievalism. When the standards of right and wrong of the Virginia mountaineers clash with the standards of the twentieth century there should be no paltering with State. Sympathy and sentimentality in such cases are merely dangerous manifestations of weakness.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## An Unfortunate Episode.

The explanation offered by Lieutenant-Governor Elyson of the extraordinary part he took in the events which occurred in the hours intervening between the Governor's departure from Richmond and his return, is not sufficient, in our judgment, to acquit of warranted and mischievous intrusion on matters entirely beyond his official province, or to relieve him of the widespread impression that he gave the interceders for the Allens some reason for believing that he would interfere in behalf of the condemned men if, in the opinion of the Attorney-General, the full executive authority devolved upon himself during the temporary absence of the Governor from the State.

Mr. Elyson states that he knew that the reasons assigned for the delay in the execution of the Allens were unfavorable to that of the petitioners, how could he have justified this reference unless he intended to act on it? If he did not contemplate interference in the case, provided the Attorney-General gave legal warrant in the Constitution for his so doing, then he was trifling with the chief law officer of the Commonwealth, besides exciting baseless expectations in the minds of the petitioners. Besides this, the course he adopted raised a new tangle of hope in the breasts of the condemned, up to that time convinced of and reconciled to the certainty of death, and subjected them to another period of agonizing suspense which left them as much less prepared to face their doom.

If Mr. Elyson was thoroughly convinced, as he says he was, that no power belonged to him in the premises, he should have declined courteously but positively to discuss the possibility of his altering in any way the mandate already issued. The Governor had not only passed upon the matter, but had declared his decision to be final, and that any further approach to him on the subject would be intrusive as well as useless. Yet

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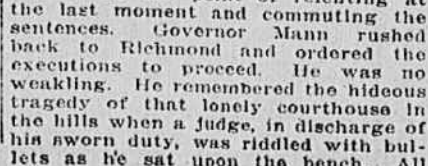
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the train bearing him away was scarcely over the Virginia border before his subordinate, conscious, too, he admits, of no authority in the premises, was in amicable conference with a number of private citizens, including the retainer of the Allens, over the monstrous proposition that the Lieutenant-Governor, the moment that the back of his superior was turned, should usurp his prerogative, disregard his deliberate rulings, and reopen questions which he had announced to be conclusively determined. Even though Mr. Elyson had become Governor by reason of the absence of Mr. Mann, it would have been beyond his rightful powers to reverse or to even take cognizance of an issue on which the Governor had definitely passed. So much the worse that when fully persuaded of his own incompetency, the Lieutenant-Governor should have temporized and shilly-shallied over the suggestion that he should suspend or nullify the edicts already sealed, signed and proclaimed, of the chief executive whom he knew to be the sole depository of the powers he was besought to usurp. The straight path before Mr. Elyson was to have said in the outset: "I dare not venture in a tangle of questions which would involve your functions. I could not, if I would, lawfully countermand or change his official orders. Consultation with the Attorney-General would be to no purpose, for should he endorse your course, it would not change my own knowledge of the constitutional limitations on my office nor of what propriety requires of me. I do not wish to seem abrupt, but the subject you have introduced is one that I cannot enter into."

There would have been no room then for misunderstanding, for disappointment, for criticism, or for the suspicion that a fluttering inclination was neutralized by a fluctuating purpose. As it was, the implication of all the circumstances is that Mr. Elyson let "I dare not" be a tangle of excuses, and if the Lieutenant-Governor had yielded assent to the petitioners, it would not have been a concession, but a surrender. The episode was a most unfortunate one, and it is to be hoped that the Governor had yielded assent to the petitioners, it would not have been a concession, but a surrender. The episode was a most unfortunate one, and it is to be hoped that the Governor had yielded assent to the petitioners, it would not have been a concession, but a surrender.

There is no gladness that Floyd Allen and Claude Swanson Allen are dead, but there is satisfaction that the law has been vindicated, and that it has been made plain that no man can defy the law and trample upon the law as the Allen clan did in the Little Virginia town when they "shot" the court, killing as they went, rather than that one of them, Floyd Allen, should go to prison for a short term for a minor offense. In the deaths of the Allens there is victory for the law and for society, which set up the law.

Governor Mann, of Virginia, was sorely tried in the case. He had gone carefully over the appeals that were made to him in behalf of the Allens, when they "shot" the law, and he was not to interfere with the court's decree ordering execution, and had so announced. The executive had left the State as the time set for the execution began. In his temporary absence from the State, he was not to interfere with the court's decree ordering execution, and had so announced. The executive had left the State as the time set for the execution began. In his temporary absence from the State, he was not to interfere with the court's decree ordering execution, and had so announced.

They say the Allens showed remarkable nerve when they went to the chair. Yet found that it was his proven the staminate that is in him when moved the tantalizing circumstances that developed, he took a train back to his State capital to see to it that the edict of the courts was not trifled with.—Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle.

## Courts Suffer.

Governor Mann, of Virginia, may have exhibited what the heedless may regard as undue severity in his activity to have the Allens executed, but we may be sure that the courts of the State will feel no safer because of the lesson taught that reckless malefactors may not murder judges and attorneys-general and expect immunity.—Chattanooga Times.

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